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*Geschichte der russischen Fabrik.* Von M. TUGAN-BARANOWSKI. Deutsche Ausgabe, von Dr. B. MINZES. Berlin, Ernest Filber, 1900. — vi, 626 pp.

The author of this work, who has made a very favorable impression in Russian scientific literature by his earlier work on the English economic crises, has undertaken to fill one of the most unpardonable gaps in Russia's economic literature by an investigation of the development of Russian industry. The author has succeeded in producing a brilliant, and yet thoroughly scientific, book. His breadth and tact have kept him from losing himself in detail: he keeps constantly in sight the general and the characteristic. He writes not about factories but about *the* factory, the development of the form of production in Russia. He fortifies his characterizations not by certain chosen data, but by a consideration of all the available sources.

In considering the subject-matter of this book, we must modify considerably our customary conception of industrial development. The largest part of contemporary Russian house industry, for example, has not developed from the family economy, as one is generally led to suppose, but owes its existence to the rise of the factory. For example, the most widely spread house industry of central Russia, cotton weaving, is due to the development of the factory. At the end of the eighteenth century foreign capitalists erected great textile factories in Russia, which were imitated by a competing house industry. The great industry yielded to this competition and the former heads of factories became the chief agents in distributing weaving among the house workers.

Briefly stated, the fortunes of the Russian factory have been as follows. Before the time of Peter the Great there was not a single large industry. At the end of his reign there were 233 factories, some under state management, the others private concerns. In order to develop the military resources of Russia, he strove to create an independent industry. His method was either to erect state factories, which could be later handed over to private individuals, or to grant large bounties to those establishing private cloth, linen, metal and other industries. Every home industry was protected by a tariff of from fifty to seventy-five per cent. The newly erected factories were on a large scale. Nine establishments in the Government of Perm numbered 25,000 laborers; the state linen factory in Moscow had 1162 workmen. At that time owners were largely merchants and the workmen serfs.

The next period was characterized by the successful efforts of the nobility to limit the rights of the merchant class to possess serfs. These efforts resulted in the building up of the "noble" factory. Of the ninety-eight factory chiefs who at the beginning of this century furnished military cloth to the government, only two came from other classes than the nobility. In the beginning of the eighteenth century the state was the chief consumer of factory products. As the technique of the time was on a low plane, the serf labor satisfied the needs of production, and the factories not only supplied the home wants but also exported extensively.

In the nineteenth century the conditions changed entirely. Without state aid the cotton industry sprang up in Russia and pushed the old linen business to the wall. With the advance of western European technique, serf labor became impracticable. Export declined. At the same time the growth of city population developed a free working class. Already in 1825 one-half of the Russian factory operatives were free laborers. Serf labor was extremely inconvenient for the managers, who could neither introduce new machinery nor alter the quality or quantity of goods, as they could not reduce the number of workmen at will. The same merchant class which in the eighteenth century had struggled so energetically for the right to possess serfs, petitioned in the middle of the nineteenth century to get rid of serf labor. Free labor became an absolute essential in factory development.

I have already said that a large part of the Russian house industries developed from the factory industry. A primitive technique allowed the house industry not only to exist, but to compete successfully with the great industry and to ruin it. In the present day of the universal destruction of the house industry, it is hard to realize that the whole period of Nicholas I was characterized by the cry for protection raised by the great industry against the house industry. In the thirties and forties of this century the competition of the house industry reduced the number of factory laborers rapidly, although cotton and yarn were being imported on a grand scale.

At the end of the fifties things changed. A sharp improvement in industrial conditions, as a factory manager beautifully put it, allowed the do-nothings [*i.e.*, the workmen] to make use of the favorable situation of the market to claim an advance in wages. . . . This caused the Russian leaders of industry to avail themselves of a means for the advancement of morality and the reduction of wages.

This means was the power loom.

Now [continues Zhuroff] the working class will, of course, be sorry that by their dishonorable and cruelly perfidious deeds they have called down upon themselves their own misfortune ; for only the excessive wrongdoing of the weavers caused the factory managers to introduce the mechanical loom.

The machine worked ; it put an end to the "wrongdoing" of the workmen ; wages sank rapidly, as is the case everywhere in Europe in the first stages of capitalistic production. A still more far-reaching change followed the abolition of serfdom, whose first working was seen in the complete ruin of all those concerns which were unprepared for the change. The "noble" factories were doomed, and the government metal factories reduced their output one-third. After these momentous changes began the uninterrupted development of the Russian great industry. The formerly victorious house industry was step by step being pushed to the wall. Nominal wages in the eighties decreased thirty to forty per cent from those of the fifties, but there was a pronounced tendency toward improved conditions. Russia has made a beginning at factory legislation.

M. Tugan-Baranowski treats not only the changes in the method of production but also the relations of intellectual forces, of literature and of legislation to the great industry. He also considers the past and present condition of labor.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

VLADIMIR GR. SIMKHOVITCH.

*Die staatliche Regelung der englischen Wollindustrie vom xv. bis zum xviii. Jahrhundert.* Von Dr. FRIEDRICH LOHMANN (in Schmoller's *Forschungen*, XVIII, Heft 1). Leipzig, Duncker und Humblot, 1900. — x, 100 pp.

The Commission for the publication of the *Acta Borussica* propose to follow in the remaining volumes of Prussian economic State Papers the same plan which they have already adopted in the volumes devoted to the corn trade and to the silk industry, *viz.*, to preface the documents themselves with a survey of contemporary conditions and governmental action in the other countries of Europe. In accordance with this purpose, Dr. Lohmann was commissioned to draw up an account of the regulation of the English woolen industry in the period from the middle of the fifteenth to the middle of the eighteenth century, and the result is now before us. It is certainly a useful piece of work, if only because it brings together a great deal of material in a convenient form. We want a similar survey for each of the great industries of each of the great countries of Europe ; and